



March 31, 2008

Chairman Richard Wright  
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board  
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100  
San Diego, CA 92123

**Re: Carlsbad Desalination Project (# R9-2006-0065, NPDES No. CA0109223) April 9  
Hearing – Agenda Item 7.**

Dear Chairman Wright,

I am writing on behalf of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce in support of Poseidon Resource's Carlsbad Desalination Project. The Chamber recently awarded Poseidon Resources with their first-ever Environmental Spirit Award because of their project's demonstrated commitment to the environment, especially the Agua Hedionda Lagoon.

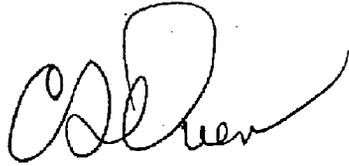
The Agua Hedionda Lagoon is a vital resource for our city; many companies and individuals depend on the Agua Hedionda Lagoon and nearby beaches, including a thriving aquaculture farm, Hubbs Sea World Research Institute, and several water recreational facilities.

Last year, Poseidon Resources submitted a Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, as part of their discharge permit requirements. The plan contains site-specific activities, procedures, practices and mitigation plans to minimize impacts to the marine environment.

This plan has been under review for over a year and has been updated on several occasions in accordance with your staff's requests. The Chamber believes that this plan puts into a place a multitude of protections for the lagoon during the plant's operation; it also ensures that the lagoon will continue to be a clean, healthy marine environment in the long-term. As part of their due diligence, Poseidon will perform regular monitoring and conduct studies designed to reduce the entrainment and impingement of marine organisms below acceptable levels. Additionally, the desalination facility will be subject to further environment review and analysis by State Lands Commission ten years after the lease is issued, guaranteeing sufficient regulatory oversight.

The Chamber believes that developing an environmentally responsible solution to the region's water needs is a key component to achieving our goal of water reliability, which is why we support the City of Carlsbad's public-private partnership with Poseidon Resources to address this need by building and operating a desalination plant, at no risk to the city and its taxpayers. We urge your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Owen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "O".

Ted Owen  
President and CEO

cc:

David King, Vice Chairman  
Susan Ritschel, Board Member  
Eric Anderson, Board Member  
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member  
Elizabeth Pearson-Schneider, Board Member  
Kris Weber, Board Member  
John Robertus, Executive Director  
Eric Becker  
Michael McCann  
John Odermatt